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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
087847.017	05/01/97	LEE	5819-275

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EXAMINER
CIRIEL

ART UNIT
3743

PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 04/27/99

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.
08/847,017

Applicant(s)

Lee

Examiner

Ljiljana V. Ciric

Group Art Unit
3743



☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Feb 16, 1999

☒ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) 1-5 and 8-18 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) none is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 11-14, and 18 is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 5, 8-10, and 15-17 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☒ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

☒ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

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DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office action is in response to the amendment and arguments filed on February 16, 1999. Claims 1 through 5 and 8 through 18 are pending in this application.

Drawings

2. In view of the applicant's amendment and arguments filed on February 16, 1999, the examiner hereby withdraws the objections to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a) cited in the previous Office action.

Specification

3. In view of the applicant's amendment and arguments filed on February 16, 1999, the examiner hereby withdraws the objections to the abstract and specification cited in the previous Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

4. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
5. Claims 8 through 10, 15, and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

With regard to claim 8, the limitations "a light source on the mold frame *and operative to provide light*" in lines 4-5 of claim 8 is unclear and renders indefinite claim 8 and claims 9, 10,

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and 17 depending therefrom. For improved clarity, recommend replacing “*and operative*” in above limitation with “, *said light source being operative*”.

With regard to claim 15, it is not clear what is meant by the limitation “*entirely rounded*” in lines 2-3 of the claim. Is this limitation intended to mean that the groove and the light guide projection are each rounded in all possible directions, as broadly interpreted? If so, there is insufficient support in the disclosure [including the drawings] as originally filed for this interpretation. It is recommended that the limitation “*entirely rounded*” be replaced with “*arcuate*” or similar, as appropriate.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

6. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

7. Claims 5 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by *Jönsson et al.*

Applicant cannot rely upon the foreign priority papers to overcome this rejection because a translation of said papers has not been made of record in accordance with 37 CFR 1.55. See MPEP § 201.15.

Jönsson et al. discloses the invention essentially as claimed, including a light guide panel 10 with a peripheral edge formed in part by light guide projections which are in turn formed between arcuate recesses 50 and either V-shaped or arcuately shaped or multifaceted recesses 60 and 62 so as to facilitate the uniform transmission of light within the light guide [column 3,

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lines 6-44]. The light guide projections formed by the recesses thus have a mix of rounded (or arcuate) and angled corners [Figure 1].

The reference thus reads on the claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

8. Claims 1 through 4, 11 through 14, and 18 are allowed.
9. Claims 8 through 10, 15, and 17 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action.

Response to Arguments

10. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 5 and 16 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

11. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

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however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.


12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ljiljana (Lil) V. Ciric, whose telephone number is (703) 308-3925.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ira Lazarus, can be reached on (703) 308-1935. The new fax phone number for this Group is (703) 305-3463.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0861.

lvc 

April 22, 1999


Ira S. Lazarus
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Group 3700